

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK, & WEATHER REPORT



USDA, NASS
North Dakota
Field Office

Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)
and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

Released: December 31, 2012
For Month Ending: December 30, 2012

General: Snowfall amounts varied across the state in December with no major impacts on winter operations reported, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Areas with limited snowfall benefitted livestock producers, although some areas had only recently received adequate snow protection for alfalfa and winter wheat. County and secondary roads on December 30 were rated as 96 percent open and 4 difficult. Road conditions were 10 percent drifted, 12 icy and 78 dry. Agricultural activities during December included moving hay and livestock to winter yards, and marketing grain.

Statewide, average snow depth was 4.7 inches on December 30, compared with 0.2 inches on January 1, 2012

Crops: As of December 30, snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 21 percent poor, 57 adequate and 22 excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 15 percent poor, 57 adequate and 28 excellent.

Livestock: Cattle conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 13 fair, 68 good and 17 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 3 percent poor, 17 fair, 65 good and 15 excellent. Hay and forage supplies were rated 11 percent short, 76 adequate and 13 surplus.

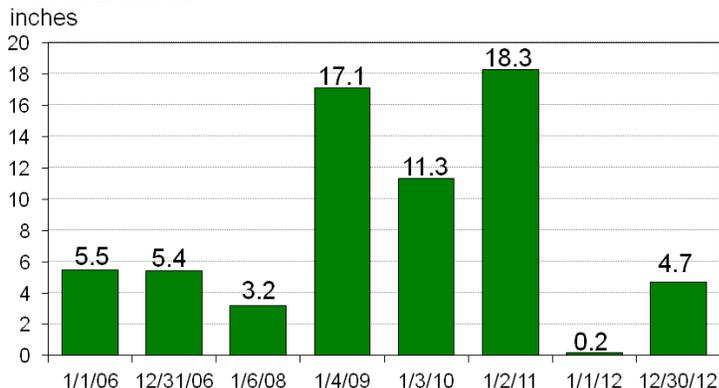
Livestock Condition North Dakota: December 30, 2012

Livestock	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle	-	2	13	68	17
Sheep	-	3	17	65	15

- Represents zero.



Average Snow Depth by Date North Dakota



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Weather: Overall, temperatures for December were below normal in the north and near normal across much of the rest of the state. Precipitation was near to above normal across much of the northwest, and parts of the central and south central with below normal precipitation elsewhere. There were no major widespread snowfall events across the state, but frequent light snow events from the second week of December through the end of the month. More widespread light snow events occurred on December 8-9, 12, and 23. On December 8-9, snowfall amounts ranged from 1 to 5 inches across much of the state with the higher amounts in the central and north central. Snowfall amounts ranged from 1 to 5 inches on December 12 mainly across the southwest, central, and north. Snowfall amounts ranged from 1 to 3 inches across much of the state on December 23 with the highest amounts in the northwest and central.

Outlook, January: January will start out with below normal temperatures with near to below normal precipitation. Near to above normal temperatures will be likely across much of the state for the second week of the month with above normal precipitation. Temperatures for the second half of the month should be below normal with near to above normal precipitation. Overall for the month of January, the state will see below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

TEMPERATURE, December 1-30, 2012

District & Stations	Temperature			
	High (degrees F)	Low (degrees F)	Average (degrees F)	Depart/norm ¹ (degrees F)
NORTHWEST				
Bowbells	42	-20	10	0
Williston	44	-11	14	2
Mohall	41	-24	8	-2
Minot	45	-14	12	-2
NORTH CENTRAL				
Baker	38	-20	9	0
Bottineau	37	-24	6	-2
Rugby	39	-20	9	-1
NORTHEAST				
Cando	37	-23	6	-8
Cavalier	39	-15	7	-1
Forest River	41	-14	9	-1
Grand Forks	43	-12	11	1
Langdon	37	-16	7	1
St. Thomas	39	-12	8	-2
WEST CENTRAL				
Hazen	50	-17	12	-3
Turtle Lake	45	-15	13	1
Watford City	49	-13	15	-2
CENTRAL				
Carrington	45	-15	10	-2
Harvey	43	-15	11	-3
Jamestown	50	-12	13	0
Robinson	46	-14	11	-3
Streeter	48	-12	12	1
EAST CENTRAL				
Dazey	46	-17	9	-1
Fargo	49	-13	12	0
Hillsboro	47	-18	10	-1
SOUTHWEST				
Beach	57	-11	18	0
Bowman	51	-12	16	-1
Dickinson	53	-9	16	-2
Hettinger	51	-13	17	0
SOUTH CENTRAL				
Mandan	50	-9	14	-1
Linton	50	-11	15	1
SOUTHEAST				
Edgeley	51	-8	14	1
Oakes	53	-14	11	-2
Wyndmere	55	-13	12	-2

¹ Normal is the 1981-2010 average. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.